

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 1, 3, 18, 19, 21, 25, and 26 are currently being canceled.

Claim 27 is currently being added.

Claims 2, 4-7, 9, 15, 16, 20 and 22-26 are currently being amended.

This amendment adds, cancels and adds claims to this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 2, 4-17, 20, 22-24 and 27 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants appreciate the indication in the Office Action that claims 2, 5-17, 20 and 22-24 contain allowable subject matter. By way of this amendment and reply, claim 2, 5-7, 9, 15, 16, 20 and 22-26 have been amended to place each of those claims in independent form, and thus those claims are now in allowable form. Dependent claims 8, 10-14 and 17 are also now in allowable form. Claim 4 has been amended to include the features of "objected to" claim 5, and thus claim 4 is now in allowable form. New claim 27 corresponds to the features of claims 4 and 6, and thus this claim is in allowable form.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 4, 18-19, 21 and 25-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,799,207 to Wang et al. Due to the cancellation of claims 1, 3, 18-19, 21 and 25-26, and due to the amendment made to claim 4 so that it now includes the features of "objected to" claim 5, this rejection is now moot.

Request for Approval of Corrected Formal Drawings Previously Submitted:

The Examiner is requested to indicate approval of the corrected formal drawings submitted to the PTO on May 17, 2004.

Conclusion:

Since all of the objections and rejections raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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